

PREPARING FOR A HURRICANE

Before the Hurricane

1. Know your risk. Find out if your area is prone to flooding.
2. If you live in a flood prone area, identify where to go if you are to evacuate and the safest route to get there. Keep telephone numbers and a road map handy. Be sure to take prescription medications, bedding, clothing, water, radio, batteries, first aid kit and flashlight when you go.
3. Prepare for the possibility of power outage. Have a minimum of one-week supply of canned food, water, flashlights and batteries, a first aid kit and a battery powered radio.
4. Make sure you have a NOAA radio for National Weather Service reports and weather warnings.
5. Trim trees that could damage your home.
6. Check on flood insurance.
7. Take pictures of your property BEFORE a storm to help validate your claim.

When the Hurricane is near

1. Listen to a radio or watch TV for updated storm information.
2. If you have space in your refrigerator or freezer consider filling plastic containers with water in them. This frozen water will help keep the freezer and refrigerator cold if the power goes out.
3. Fill your bathtub with water for flushing the toilet in case water service is unavailable after the storm.
4. Bring inside anything that can blow away like lawn furniture and trash cans.
5. Fill your gas tank.

If heavy rain occurs

1. Be aware that floods are deceptive. Any water above your knees is dangerous.
2. Do not drive through water on the roadway.

After the Hurricane

1. Keep up with the storm information and instructions on a radio or TV.
2. Prepare to be without power, telephone or any outside services for at least a week, possibly more.
3. Watch for downed power lines, weakened structures, rodents and snakes. Avoid standing water.
4. Avoid drinking tap water unless officials say it is safe to do so. Eat only food you are sure is safe.
5. Operate generators outdoors in well-ventilated, dry areas, away from air intakes to homes.
6. Avoid using candles as a source of light. Deadly fires can be a result. Use flashlights instead.

HURRICANE WATCH

LISTEN TO NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR INSTRUCTIONS AND STORM INFORMATION

PREPARE TO BRING INSIDE ANY FURNITURE OR DECORATIONS YOU HAVE OUTSIDE

PREPARE TO COVER ALL WINDOWS OF YOUR HOME

FILL YOUR CAR'S GAS TANK

CHECK BATTERIES AND STOCK UP ON CANNED FOOD, FIRST AID SUPPLIES, DRINKING WATER AND MEDICATIONS

HURRICANE WARNING

LISTEN TO THE ADVICE OF LOCAL OFFICIALS AND LEAVE IF THEY TELL YOU TO DO SO

COMPLETE PREPARATION ACTIVITIES

BE ALERT FOR TORNADOES

REMAIN INDOORS

STAY AWAY FROM FLOODWATERS